

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 204757
ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
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S/S-O:TMARTIN

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204757

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: VISIT OF TURKISH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG:
CYPRUS

1. FOLLOWING ACTING SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON AUG. 8, MFA SEC
GEN ELEKDAG AND TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL MET WITH COUNSE-
OR NIMETZ TO DISCUSS CYPRUS SITUATION.

2. NIMETZ STRESSED THAT WITH LIFTING OF TURKISH EMBARGO
U.S. EXECUTIVE BRANCH WAS UNDER CLEAR OBLIGATION TO HELP
DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE EARLY PROGRESS TOWARD
A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. WE FELT THAT IT WAS IN EVERYONE'S
INTEREST TO MOVE TOWARD SOLUTION. THIS WOULD HELP TURKISH-
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GREEK RELATIONS, AS WELL AS U.S. RELATIONS WITH BOTH GREECE
AND TURKEY, AND WOULD ALSO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENT IN CONGRESS
FOR FUTURE ASSISTANCE REQUESTS. WE WERE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
THAT PRESENT KYPRIANOU EMPHASIS ON INTERNATIONALIZING
PROBLEM AND DISINCLINATION TO DISCUSS VAROSHA OR OTHER
CONCRETE ISSUES WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO RESUME NEGOTIA-
TING PROCESS AND ACHIEVE REAL PROGRESS. WE HOPED THAT OTHER

AVENUES COULD BE FOUND WHICH WERE REALISTIC. WE THOUGHT THAT VAROSHA OFFERED THE MOST REALISTIC EARLY HOPE OF FURTHER PROGRESS. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM, WHO REGARDED

THE DENKTASH VAROSHA PROPOSAL AS VERY POSITIVE, SEEMED INTERESTED IN PURSUING THE MATTER IN ORDER NOT TO MISS THE PRESENT OPPORTUNITY. WE WERE WILLING TO ASSIST THE SYG IN HIS PURSUING VAROSHA POSSIBILITY, AS WELL AS FINDING A WAY TO RESUME INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

3. ELEKDAG REPEATED THAT AS HE HAD EARLIER TOLD ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, PRESENT ECEVIT GOVERNMENT WAS DETERMINED TO RESOLVE THE CYPRUS ISSUE. THE TURKISH SIDE WAS PREPARED TO TAKE STEPS AT THE RIGHT TIME WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE INITIATIVES. THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD ALREADY COME FORWARD WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS, WHICH HAD BEEN REJECTED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. THE TURKISH SIDE FELT THAT GREEK-CYPRIOT INTRANSIGENCE HAD MEANT THE LOSS OF SEVEN VALUABLE MONTHS. THE TURKISH SIDE GENUINELY WANTED TO MAINTAIN ITS FLEXIBILITY AND FELT THAT TO BE MORE PRECISE WOULD PRECLUDE THAT FLEXIBILITY. THERE WAS, OF COURSE, ALSO CONCERN THAT MORE PRECISE TURKISH OFFERS WOULD ONLY BE POCKETED WITHOUT REAL NEGOTIATING PROGRESS. ELEKDAG HOPED THAT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WOULD IN DUE COURSE LEAD TO A CHANGE IN THE GREEK-CYPRIOT ATTITUDE. HE ALSO REPEATED THE TURKISH POSITION THAT THE SUPPORT OF

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KARAMANLIS WAS ESSENTIAL AND HOPED THE U.S. COULD PERSUADE THE GOG IN THAT DIRECTION. SO LONG AS THE CYPRUS ISSUE REMAINS, IT CONSTITUTES AN ELEMENT OF POISON IN THE TURKISH/GREEK RELATIONSHIP. PROGRESS COULD BE MADE WITH CYPRUS UNSETTLED, BUT A REAL TURKISH-GREEK SETTLEMENT WILL REQUIRE A CYPRUS SOLUTION.

4. ELEKDAG SAID THAT VAROSHA WAS THE IMPORTANT TURKISH TRUMP CARD AND MUST BE PLAYED INTELLIGENTLY AND NOT WASTED. THE DENKTASH PROPOSAL ON VAROSHA WHICH HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED WAS "RIGHT FOR THE TIME BEING" AND ANY MODIFICATION WOULD CAUSE FURTHER DIFFICULTIES. THE TURKISH SIDE WAS ANXIOUS TO GET TO THE TABLE AND WANTED TO KEEP THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE ISLAND RELAXED.

5. NIMETZ SAID THAT WE RECOGNIZED THAT WITH THE EMBARGO THE GREEK SIDE HAD AN INCENTIVE NOT TO MOVE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT, BUT WITHOUT THE EMBARGO THE SITUATION WAS DIFFERENT. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS COME TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE RATHER THAN SEEK DISCUSSIONS IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA.

6. ELEKDAG SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS IN SIX MONTHS IT WILL BE EASIER TO DEAL WITH THE SEVERAL ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AFTER THE VARIOUS U.N. EVENTS WERE COMPLETED. HE STRESSED AGAIN THAT WE COULD BE CONFIDENT OF TURKISH

GOOD FAITH AND WILLINGNESS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. HE THOUGHT THAT SUPPORT FOR THE GOC POSITION WAS LESS STRONG INTERNATIONALLY AND THAT THE TURKISH SIDE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE U.N. WOULD BE LESS DIFFICULT FOR THE GOT.

7. NIMETZ STRESSED AGAIN THAT IT WAS OUR IMPRESSION THAT UNSYG WALDHEIM DID WANT TO MOVE AHEAD WITH VAROSHA. WE UNDERSTOOD THE SECRETARIAT FELT THAT WITH VERY LITTLE CONFIDENTIAL

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MODIFICATION THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSAL COULD SERVE AS A BASIS FOR ACTION.

8. ELEKDAG URGED AGAIN THAT WE NOT DAMAGE ANY PROSPECT OF REAL AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENT IN FIVE OR SIX MONTHS OUT OF FEAR OF PROBLEMS IN U.N. BODIES THIS FALL. HE STRESSED AGAIN TURKISH DESIRE TO MOVE AHEAD AND BE CONCILIATORY AND FLEXIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN SS-15

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R 160408Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 204757

EXDIS HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 204757 ACTION ANKARA INFO NICOSIA, ATHENS, USUN NEW YORK, AND LONDON DATED AUGUST 12, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204757

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, TU, GR, CY

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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TAGS: PEPR, TU, GR, CY, US, (ELEKDAG, SUKRO)
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